

“‘Diameter’ means the distance through a tree at the point of average thickness, as measured from outside of the bark to outside of the bark.

“G. S. 113-81.5. Purpose. The purpose of this Article is to assure the continued productivity of forest lands and to provide for the protection and perpetuation of the forest resources of the State by means of a continuous growth of timber, and such purposes are hereby declared to be in the public interest and for the benefit of the public welfare.

“G. S. 113-81.6. Trees Which Must Be Left Uncut for Reseeding Purposes. Every landowner who cuts, or permits to be cut, or any person who is responsible for cutting, or any person who procures another to cut, for commercial purposes, timber from one or more acres of land on which there is located on any acre loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*), white pine (*Pinus strobus*) pond pine (*Pinus rigida* var. *serotina*), longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*), pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*), slash pine (*Pinus caribaea*), or yellow poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), singly or together occur and constitute ten per cent or more of the total number of stems six (6) inches in diameter at four and one-half feet ($4\frac{1}{2}$) above the ground, shall reserve and leave uncut and uninjured not less than four (4) conebearing or seed bearing trees per acre of the above-named species of a size not less than twelve (12) inches in diameter at a point four and one-half ($4\frac{1}{2}$) feet above the general ground level or not less than fifteen (15) inches in diameter at a point three inches (3) above the general ground level: Provided that where there are not present four conebearing trees of the above-named species twelve (12) inches or larger in diameter at a point four and one-half ($4\frac{1}{2}$) feet above the ground, on any particular acre, there shall be left uncut and uninjured in place of each conebearing tree of the above-named species not present two such conebearing trees of the largest diameter class less than twelve (12) inches in diameter. Such trees shall be reserved for the purpose of reseeding the land and shall be healthy, windfirm and have well developed crowns evidencing seed bearing ability by the presence of cones in the crowns; provided, that on any acre or acres where loblolly pine, shortleaf pine, white pine, pond pine, longleaf pine, pitch pine, slash pine, or yellow poplar occur, either singly or together, and compose ten (10) per cent or less of the live trees thereon, the provisions of this Section shall not apply.

“G. S. 113-81.7. When Trees Left for Reseeding Purposes May be Cut. Trees which are left uncut for purposes of reseeding shall be the property of the landowner but shall not be cut until at least ten years have elapsed after cutting of the timber on such lands.

“G. S. 113-81.8. Posting or Publication of Notices. The State Forester shall distribute notices calling attention to the provisions of this Article to forest rangers for posting in conspicuous places in all counties of the State in which this Article has been made effective as hereinafter provided, and may cause such notices to be published in newspapers of general circulation in each county within the State.

“G. S. 113-81.9. Penalties. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall incur a penalty of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each such seed tree cut from land on which it is required by this Act to be